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# THE REA LINEMAN

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Washington, D. C.

## JOB TRAINING AND SAFETY CONFERENCE SUCCESSFUL

### Kansas Makes It TWENTY-ONE

The state of Kansas now has a job training and safety program. This program is under the direction of O. H. Beaty, Kansas State Supervisor of Trade and Industrial Education. Kansas is now looking for a competent training instructor. Officers of the Advisory Committee are: Manager R. J. King, Chairman; Foreman H. E. Manis, Vice-Chairman; Manager I. H. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer.

### Lineman Injured in Fall After Low Voltage Shock

A two-wire secondary had been built to serve a new member. This secondary had been energized but the service drops had not yet been run. A lineman climbed the pole (1A in sketch) to connect the service drops to the secondary line. While changing position on the pole, a hook cut out, causing him to swing around the pole and lose his balance. He grabbed the energized secondary which carried 110 volts. At the same time his free hook slipped under the ground wire stapled to the pole, and the lineman received a shock. He was knocked out temporarily and fell to the ground. The fall, which broke contact with the secondary, freed him from that source of danger. However, he was seriously injured as a result of the fall.

Later examination disclosed a broken vertebra and bruises on the back.

(To Refer To Sketch On Page 4,  
Lay this copy down flat)

### Workshop Proves Helpful To Instructors

The Washington REA Workshop Conference of job training and safety instructors, ending October 4, included four busy days of discussion of mutual problems. The large gathering attending every session participated actively and interest ran high.

Speakers at the opening session were REA Administrator Claude R. Wickard, Frank A. Dawes, Chief, REA Management Division, J. F. TePoorten, Wisconsin Coordinator of Vocational Education, O. L. Heath, Virginia REA Job Training and Safety Supervisor, and William A. Ross, Public Service Training Specialist, U. S. Office of Education.

The evening session was held at the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company Training School at American University. H. R. Hampton, general plant personnel supervisor, assisted by E. W. Hill, training supervisor, demonstrated teaching techniques used in training telephone linemen.

Two pieces of demonstration equipment of special interest to the conference were the "pole-falling" board and the traffic table. With them, the instructor can parallel conditions existing in most types of pole and traffic accidents. The board demonstrates the correct way to "load" poles with equal amounts of stress and strain on all sides. It also shows what happens when anchors, service drops and conductors are cut away, causing an unbalance in the load.

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# The Conference

- Editorial -

This issue of The REA Lineman was delayed to bring our readers a few high lights of the Job Training and Safety Supervisors' Workshop Conference, held in Washington, D. C., October 1 through 4. This conference has been of great value through the exchange of ideas, work methods, and open discussion of training problems by the travelling instructors and vocational educators under whose guidance these instructors work.

REA has always felt that the field is the laboratory and that the lessons which come out of actual experience in the construction, operation and maintenance of rural lines are of great value in developing safer and more efficient work methods. The 1946 Workshop Conference has lived up to our expectations. We think that everybody who attended benefited greatly. The REA Lineman will publish, from time to time, material developed at the conference.

## How They Happened In September

This is a partial list of accidents suffered by employees of REA-financed systems in September. They are divided into three classes: pole accidents, line accidents and miscellaneous.

### Pole Accidents

Four men were setting a 35 foot Class 6 pole. Injury occurred when employee stepped into ditch while pole was being raised.

Employee was loading poles on truck, when pole fell on left hand, breaking bone.

While setting poles, employee was struck on head by loose cable hook.

Employee was unloading poles when a particle of wood or cinder fell into his eye, causing intense irritation.

Employee was unloading a carload of poles. Poles slipped and one struck him on side, breaking pelvis.

Employee strained back while handling poles with construction crew.

While employee changed position on pole, hooks cut out and he fell to ground, injuring back.

Employee was tying secondary wire, while acting as foreman for crew changing poles due to road construction. While he was tying in the secondary, the tail touched the primary wire. His left arm was burned.

Employee was unloading poles when chain slipped. End of chain struck his head.

### Line Accidents

Line crew, building a new line, was unloading material. Two men were standing on back of truck as it slowly coasted downhill. The clutch or transmission failed to work properly and the truck suddenly stopped, throwing both men off their feet. One managed to stay on the truck but the other man was thrown off. A reel of wire rolled off and over the man's leg, breaking it.

Employee was repairing line when oil circuit breaker closed in unexpectedly. He was burned on right hand and on back.

### Miscellaneous

Employee was unloading empty acetylene tank from truck. Tank caught on truck and struck him in side, breaking rib.

Employee was filling truck's gasoline tank at service station when an explosion occurred in underground storage tank, directly beneath him. He was thrown into the air and landed on a delivery tank wagon. Two ribs were broken, and he suffered from shock. Truck badly burned.

Employee was helping foreman fix truck door. Former was using cold chisel. The chisel broke under the hammering and a sliver cut into his finger.

Several employees were 1) cut by briar, 2) cut by thorns, 3) cut by axe that slipped from hands.



# Here Are The Resolutions

The Resolutions Committee of the 1946 REA Job Training and Safety Supervisors Workshop Conference submitted the following resolutions for consideration by the conference. These resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved that all grounds and the neutral conductor be removed from any pole on which live line work is being done with live line tools, when possible.

Resolved that oil circuit breaker installations be such that hot line clamps be installed on both load and line side.

Resolved that hot line clamps be installed on both load and line sides of single or repeating sectionalizing and protective equipment.

Resolved that line trucks be grounded when setting poles in or near energized lines, or any time that the truck can become energized from some source.

Resolved that hot stick work be discouraged until such time as it becomes necessary, and only used then by qualified workmen under adequate supervision.

Resolved that we continue urging the use of rubber gloves from the ground up.

Resolved that the ground wire on an A5 transformer assembly be swung around the pole to the back half, after it has passed the transformer, and at no time shall be placed in the climbing or working area on the pole.

## *Lower Eye-bolt*

Resolved that the eye-bolt supporting the primary take-off on an A5 addition to an A1 or A2 be lowered to a point 6" below the bottom of the pole top pin, and the neutral conductor be lowered accordingly.

Resolved that on any transformer or other assembly which does not conform with standard specifications, when work must be performed on the assembly, the assembly be rehung according to our present specifications.

Resolved that on installation of a conventional transformer on a pole with an A5 assembly, the cross-arm supporting the arrestor and cut-out be placed 15" below the primary dead end.

Resolved that REA's Engineering Division assist in eliminating the further use of "T" brackets on transformer installations.

Resolved that the phase jumper be buttoned back upon itself and not used as a grounding device.

## *Ground Resistance*

Recommend that the condition of ground resistance be determined at the time of ground rod installation.

Resolved that paralleled transformers be plainly identified in some manner.

Resolved that further study be given to the location of transformers on dead end poles.

Recommend that all cooperative trucks be painted safety orange in color.

Resolved that the Engineering Division furnish all Job Training and Safety Supervisors with an up-to-date file of engineering memoranda, and keep it currently up to date.

Resolved that the Management Division furnish all Job Training and Safety Supervisors with an up-to-date file of all management memoranda pertaining to job training and safety, and keep it currently up to date.

Resolved that the supervisors extend their sincere appreciation to Clyde T. Ellis and Avery C. Moore of NRECA for the luncheon at the Raleigh Hotel.

Resolved that we thank Mr. Fleming for inviting us to this conference. Special thanks are also due Mr. LaMaster, Mr. Shehee, and the Conference Planning Committee. We greatly appreciate the courtesies extended by the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, and last but not least we wish to thank all who contributed so generously to

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## Conference (Continued)

The table consists of a scale model arrangement of roads, poles and cars, with which the demonstrators showed the effect of traffic and collisions on poles. Both devices can be adapted to demonstrating similar conditions in the construction, operation and maintenance of REA-financed lines and will undoubtedly be used in the future by many instructors.

The next three days of the conference were devoted almost wholly to discussions of technical subjects. The Lineman will publish several articles on these discussions in the future.

## Resolutions (Continued)

the success of these meetings. We now return home with fresh inspiration to do a better job in the important field of job training and safety.

L. C. Meyer, Chairman; E. F. Nauert, C. G. Alexander, E. L. Hayes, V. A. Barfield.

## Burns Were On The Head And??



--Geo. L. Perkins, Jr.

## It CAN Happen Here

Bill, our lineman, lay home sleeping;  
Late at night a dream came creeping.  
He dreamed that one man on the line  
Came in and said, "My service is fine!"  
He dreamed of a lady who didn't complain  
"Cause her lights went off in the wind  
and rain".

He dreamed that folks were prompt to call  
If they saw the wire break and fall,  
And weren't afraid to wear out shoes  
Walking out to check their own main fuse.  
He dreamed that during hunting season  
The men and boys could see the reason  
Why shooting birds instead of the glass  
Would give our juice a chance to pass.  
And as this dream went through his head  
The phone bells jerked him out of bed.  
A voice on the telephone calmly said,  
"Come on out, Bill--the whole line's dead!"

--Newsletter, Kandiyohi: Co-op Electric  
Power Association, Willmar, Minn.

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